



Victims Services
Attorney General's
 department of nsw

Victims Assistance Scheme (VAS) Supplementary Form

to the Application for Compensation by a Primary or Secondary Victim form

Claim number

Victims Support and Rehabilitation Act 1996

This form is to be used where you are making a claim for prescribed expenses under the Victims Assistance Scheme (VAS) and you have completed the *Application for Compensation by a Primary or Secondary Victim* form. Alternatively you may contact Victims Services for the new form, *Application for Compensation and/or Expenses*.

1. Do you have private health insurance? No Yes
2. List all prescribed expenses you are claiming under the Victims Assistance Scheme. Please refer to the information on the back of this form on claiming expenses. All receipts must be attached to your VAS application. No further receipts can be accepted after an assessor has determined your claim.

Note: *Victims Services reserves the right to confirm the expenses claimed with the service provider.*

| Name of service provider | Amount on receipt | Amount received from health insurance, Medicare, etc. | Tick if receipt is attached | Is this an ongoing expense? |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
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Statutory Declaration

This statutory declaration must be signed by the applicant (either the victim or the person applying on behalf of the victim) in the presence of a Justice of the Peace or Solicitor.

I, (full name)

do solemnly and sincerely declare that all the statements made in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the *Oaths Act 1900*.

Taken and declared before me at
 (place)

This / /
 (day / month / year)

Your signature

Justice of the Peace/Solicitor
 (signature)

Justice of the Peace/Solicitor
 (printed name)

Justice of the Peace Number/Solicitor's Practicing Certificate Number

THE VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME (VAS)

Eligibility

Injury: Applicants will need to prove that they are a primary victim of an act of violence that resulted in at least one of the compensable injuries in Schedule 1 of the *Victims Support & Rehabilitation Act 1996*.

Time to Lodge: The act of violence must have occurred on or after the legislation for the Scheme commenced (16 February 2007). Claims must be lodged within two years of the date of the act of violence. Late applications cannot be accepted.

Types of expenses that can be claimed: Prescribed expenses means the list of expenses found in the *Victims Support and Rehabilitation Regulation 2006*, which are:

- dental
- ambulance
- physiotherapy
- prescription glasses/contact lenses
- domestic assistance while recovering (up to \$500)
- cleaning costs of property related to the act of violence (up to \$500)
- security (up to \$500).

Amount paid: The minimum amount that can be reimbursed is a total of \$200 for all expenses claimed in an application. This means that the net total of all your expenses must be over \$200 before your claim is accepted. You may only be reimbursed for the difference between the amount you have paid for the medical/related expense and any rebate from a private health fund, Medicare, or other source.

The maximum amount that can be reimbursed for expenses under the VAS is a total of \$1500 but there are restrictions on certain types of expenses. See above.

General information about VAS

Claims: It is possible to lodge both a claim for Victims Compensation, and a claim for expenses under the VAS. However, the same expense cannot be reimbursed under compensation and VAS. It is important to remember that only one claim under the VAS may be made for a particular act of violence.

All receipts must be attached to your VAS application. No further receipts can be accepted after an assessor has determined your claim.

Monies from other sources: You cannot be reimbursed through the VAS (or compensation) for an expense if you are entitled to be reimbursed through another source such as Medicare, health insurance, WorkCover, a government or non-government agency, private or other insurance, court order, civil or private settlement.

Solicitor: No legal costs will be paid in relation to claims under the VAS.

Appeal: Applicants can appeal to the Tribunal an assessor's decision to dismiss an application in relation to the VAS. If you disagree with the amount reimbursed for expenses in a VAS claim you may write to the Director, Victims Services and ask that the award be reviewed.

Restitution: Restitution will not apply to any awards of expenses under the VAS.

CONTACTING VICTIMS SERVICES

If you are legally represented you should first contact your solicitor who may make enquiries on your behalf.

For further information or assistance please contact Victims Services on: **(02) 8688 5511**

Or, if you are calling from outside the metropolitan area: **1800 069 054 (Freecall)**

A person who is hearing impaired and is using a TTY machine may call on this number: **TTY (02) 8688 5575**

When calling, if you need an interpreter, call the Telephone Interpreting Service (TIS) on: **131 450**

Or Victims Services may be able to arrange an interpreter for you.

For further information refer to the relevant legislation and our brochure *Compensation for Victims of Violent Crime*.

You may also visit Victims Services website at: **www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/vs**

Our email address is: **vct@agd.nsw.gov.au**

Further information for victims of crime can be found at: **www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/voc**

WHERE TO SEND YOUR COMPLETED FORM

**The Director, Victims Services
Locked Bag 5118, Parramatta NSW 2124**

Or solicitors may use the Document Exchange:
DX 8232 Parramatta

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This information is available on our website www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/vs (see 'Forms and Publications'). For alternative formats such as Braille, audiotape, large print or computer disk, contact Diversity Services on (02) 8688 8460 (voice), (02) 8688 7733 (TTY - for people who are deaf or have a speech impairment) or diversity_services@agd.nsw.gov.au

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